

Welcome

Hello folks,
I hope all is well.

As I am sure you are aware we have started our first phase of OPAL. All the children mixed today across both the front and back playgrounds. We were **over the moon** with the children's behaviours towards each other. Such great team work skills and good empathy!

We will continue this next week and then introduce our first set of **Sensory Activities** in our last week before half term.

We would recommend that the **Junior School children** begin to bring in **wellies in named bags** and pop on their pegs for lunchtime for when we begin to open up the field for activities. No wellies, no field.

Have a lovely weekend everyone.

Best wishes
Rae Lee [Headteacher]
Email: rlee@hartfordinfantschool.org

OPAL

We are seeking the following:

OPAL Bingo Items

Hopefully you have seen our OPAL Bingo Card [see the last page of this newsletter]

We thought it might be fun to make this into a game. We are going to play OPAL Bingo in each class from Preschool through to Year 6.

The class that can tick off the **most items**, preferably a full house, by **Friday 14th February** will be rewarded with extra play time.

We know the children always request extra playtime when rewards are distributed, so they will be super excited about this initiative.

Thank you for all your support. **Don't forget those wellies though so they can go on the field soon.**



Attendance

Please **Bee** on time for school.



It is extremely important to aim for **96+%**, this will ensure your child makes the best progress.

Junior School: 8.40am - 3.15pm

Infant School: 8.45am - 3.15pm

Preschool: 9.00am - 3.00pm

This week the **best attendance** was seen in:

Class 5 in the Infant School and
Willow Class in the Junior School.

Our **Bee** on time winner is **Bella.**

We reward the child with the **best punctuality** each week in the class with the best attendance. A Tesco voucher for home and a lil' prize for the child is given.

Disco

Our **PATHS** team are organising our **Spring Disco** for both schools.

We are inviting all the **Infant School children** to come to school with their Disco **clothes in a named bag** to change into and then to go to the Disco **without** an adult from home. Please pay for the **£3.00 ticket on Parent Pay** and pick them up at the usual classroom doors at **4.15pm.**

For all **Junior School children** come to the Infant School at **4.15pm** with your ticket and get ready to throw some shapes.

Parents please come to collect your child at **5.15pm** from the Infant School Hall.

Children who attend **Treehouse** on a Thursday are invited to the respective Disco with their peers and then start/return to club before/afterwards.

Please note that the Treehouse Club will take place in the Junior School on this evening only.

<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Contacting School</i></p> <p>To contact staff please email or phone the school offices:</p> <p>Infant and Preschool: office@hartfordinfantschool.org 01480 398046 www.hartfordinfantschool.org</p> <p>Junior School: office@hartfordjuniorschool.org 01480 454695 www.hartfordjuniorschool.org</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Preschool</i></p> <p>This week, we thought about different celebrations that happen around the world and learnt about the 'Lunar New Year'.</p> <p>We used our fine motor skills to make paper chain snakes for the year of the snake.</p> <p>Next week, we will be thinking about our own bodies, singing songs such as, 'Head, shoulders, knees and toes' and we will also be asking for some baby photos of the children so we can look at how we grow and change – please look out on Tapestry for a post regarding this.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Reception</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Class 1 & 2</p> <p>This week, we have been finding out about the human body. We have been thinking about how we change as we grow from babies into toddlers and about what we are like now as 4 and 5 year olds. We have loved looking at our baby and toddler photos - thank you for uploading so many of them to Tapestry!</p> <p>Next week, we will be getting musical, learning new songs and using percussion instruments to tap out a steady rhythm. In maths we will be using 'more than' and 'fewer than' to describe quantities.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Year 1</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Class 3 & 4</p> <p>This week, in English we wrote postcards and worked hard to remember to use capital letters and full stops. In science we used our senses to explore feely bags and smell pots.</p> <p>Next week, in enquiry we are looking forward to making fruit kebabs as part of our Design Technology units. We are excited about making a digit hat as part of the NSPCC Number Day.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Year 2</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Class 5 & 6</p> <p>This week, we learnt how to retrieve information from a non-fiction text in English. In maths, we solved near doubles and used our knowledge of number bonds to ten to solve bonds to 20. We designed a healthy recipe for a flapjack in our enquiry lesson.</p> <p>Next week, in English we will write an explanation text about 'Children in WWII', make a digit hat as part of the NSPCC Number Day and put our cooking hats on to make the healthy flapjack we designed.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Year 3</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Beech & Chestnut Classes</p> <p>This week, we explored water colours and different styles of painting and in English we planned our monologue, imagining we are the 'Iron Man' stuck in the pit, caught by the farmers.</p> <p>Next week in history we will be comparing the different homes of the Stone Age people.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Year 4</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Willow & Holly Classes</p> <p>This week, we focused on dialogue in our grammar and English lessons. We looked at direct speech and indirect speech in a variety of texts. In history, we looked at cave art made by the people of the Stone Age and the children had a go at drawing a bison with charcoal.</p> <p>Next week, we look forward to our NSPCC Number Day. On Friday, we will be going to Thongsley Primary School to practice multiplication with the Year 4's there.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Year 5</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Oak & Ash Classes</p> <p>This week, in maths, we have been consolidating our learning on area and scaling. We were also very lucky to have Mr McClennan from St Peters School deliver an engaging science lesson on Monday afternoon.</p> <p>Next week, we will be continuing to learn about poetry. With a focus on haiku poems which use different amounts of syllables per line. We will use the island from 'Kensuke's Kingdom' as our inspiration.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Year 6</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Pine & Sycamore Classes</p> <p>This week, we have been completing mock SATS papers in reading, SPAG and maths. We coped well with the changes to routine and staffing. In PE, we continued to test our fitness levels in a joint PE lesson, in geography we considered how redevelopment has impacted Birmingham and in French we learned how to say what we do at the weekend.</p> <p>Next week, we will be learning about area and perimeter in maths and how battery size affects electric circuits in science.</p>

[Click here for Term Dates for 2024-2025](#)

[Click here for Term Dates for 2025-2026](#)

NSPCC Number Day	All schools	Friday 7th February	Our maths Leads [Mrs Cheryl Esaw and Mrs Michelle Smith] are organising a fun morning of activities for the children. Infant School Parents to pop into make a number hat from 9.00am-9.20am
Safer Internet Day	All schools	Tuesday 11th February	Both schools will participate in assemblies with a focus on how to be safe when they are online.
Disco	All schools	Thursday 13th February	PATHS will be organising a Disco for both schools. See fliers for further details.
Half Term	All schools	Monday 17th – Friday 21st February	School will be closed for all pupils
NSPCC Assemblies	All schools	Wk beg Monday 24th February	We will be investigating how to 'Speak out. Stay safe.'
NSPCC Workshops	Year 2 Year 5 & 6	Tuesday 4th March	We will be further investigating how to 'Speak out. Stay safe.'
World Book Day	All schools	Thursday 6th March	All children and staff are invited to come to school 'wearing' a word. It could be the word 'sparkly' and wear sequins or 'magical' and come as a Wizard or 'sleepy' and come in PJs.
Vision Screening	Year R	Wednesday 12th March	The NHS Vision Screening Team will be in school to check the vision of all children in Class 1 and 2.
Red Nose Day	All schools	Friday 21st March	We will support this worthwhile charity. More details to follow.
Easter Concert	Year R	Tuesday 1st April	Our children in Year R [classes 1 & 2] will perform a few Easter themed songs for families to enjoy.
Easter Fete	All schools	Wednesday 2nd April	Our PATHS team will be organising our annual festive fair for the children.
Easter Bonnet Parade	Infant and Preschool	Thursday 3rd April	All Preschool and Infant children are invited to make an Easter bonnet at home to bring to school for the annual parade.
Last day of term	All schools	Friday 4th April	School will shut for the Easter Break.
Treehouse Club closed	All schools	Friday 4th April	No Treehouse Club for this evening.
Summer Term begins	All schools	Wednesday 23rd April	School reopens for all children. 8.40am for KS2, 8.45am for Year R and KS1 and 9.00am for Preschool.

Themed Lunches

Wed 12 th February	Valentine's Menu
Thursday 6 th March	World Book Day Menu
Wednesday 2 nd April	Easter Roast Menu
Friday 4 th April	Easter fun Menu

See **Caterlink** and **ParentPay** for further information on how to book these meals for your child.

Online Safety January 2025

Roblox

We are aware that some of our children play '**Roblox**'. However, there are concerns about the safety of this platform for a whole host of reasons, such as **highly inappropriate games accessible to young children, questionable moderation, significant grooming concerns** and more.

Roblox is a platform where any user can create games and one of the biggest concerns is that none of these user-generated games have required an age rating system.

That's about to change, from mid-December creators will have to content-rate their games. It's a positive step forward but much more needs to be done by Roblox and other platforms to help parents with keeping their children safe.

You can read more about the concerns and the steps which Roblox are taking [HERE](#).

Loot Boxes

For many children and young people playing games is predominantly about **socialising** with their friends. Because of this there can be significant peer pressure to look and be better than everyone else. In-game purchases such as **loot boxes** capitalise on this peer pressure, enticing users to get ahead more quickly by spending money.

Loot boxes have been a concern for a long time. It is thought by many that loot boxes can be a gateway or lead-in to gambling.

Concerningly, a BBC investigation has found that, out of the top 45 biggest games on the Google Play store, most are not disclosing properly that the games contain loot boxes.

The BBC article can be found [HERE](#).

Online Scams

ParentZone have put together a very simple but useful webpage guide for parents on how to deal with online scams.

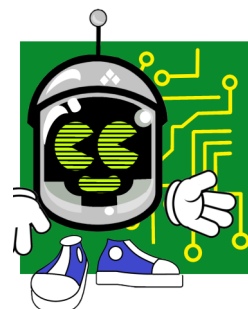
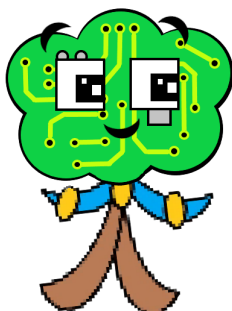
You can find the guide [HERE](#).

Free Webinar

Supporting Neurodivergent Children in the Online World

Internet Matters are putting on a free webinar (29th January) for parents and carers of neurodivergent children and young people who enjoy gaming online. Registration is required.

See [HERE](#) for more information.





We are constantly seeking 'loose parts' to add to our store of items that will be rolled out over the next few weeks and beyond at lunchtime. **Thank you for all the donations so far**, especially the tyres [of which we need more].

This is a copy of the items we are currently seeking.

We thought it might be fun to make this into a game. We are going to play **OPAL Bingo** in each class from **Preschool** through to **Year 6**. The class that can tick off the most items, preferably a full house, by **Friday 14th February** will be rewarded with **extra play time**.

<h1 style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Get ready to play... OPAL BINGO</h1>	<p>Laundry basket</p>	<p>Acorns</p>	<p>Wooden and metal spoons</p>	<p>Strainers</p>	<p>Plastic crates</p>	
	<p>Baking pans</p>	<p>Pine Cones</p>	<p>Umbrellas</p>	<p>Pans</p>	<p>Utensils</p>	<p>Tarpaulin</p>
	<p>Colanders</p>	<p>Jugs</p>	<p>Sinks and tubs</p>	<p>Plastic tubes</p>	<p>Cardboard tubes</p>	<p>Watering cans</p>
	<p>Beach spades</p>	<p>Buckets</p>	<p>Trowels</p>	<p>Funnels</p>	<p>Wellies</p>	
	<p>Guttering</p>	<p>Big cardboard boxes</p>	<p>Wooden and plastic pegs</p>	<p>Wellies</p>	<p>Watering cans</p>	